

The Messenger



2021

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

12095 Blades Road, P.O. Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625

Email: info@stpaulscordova.org Website: www.stpaulscordova.org

Phone: 410-364-5147

From Pastor White

First, as I've said a few times in the last week or so, thank you for the opportunity to be your pastor for the last two strange and interesting years. In a time when I could have been isolated by a virus, you gave me the challenge of helping the congregation move effectively through finding new and creative ways to be the church. It is no overstatement to say that the last two years have been the most challenging of my 35 years in ordained ministry.

Thanks also to those of you who contributed generously to my "bicycle fund;" now all I need to do is find the kind of machine I'm looking for; it seems that the bike manufacturers and sellers are struggling with some of the same "supply chain" issues as a lot of other businesses.

And a special word of thanks to the Tuesday Bible Study group that encouraged me to move back into the church building and continually challenged me in my reading of the Bible and the way it shapes our lives together as God's people.

If there are regrets from the last two years, they center around not having the ordinary ways pastors use to get to know the members of the congregations they serve and not having some of the opportunities we had begun to work towards when things abruptly changed, to work with the council and Synod staff to help discover a new map for ministry in Cordova.

As this congregation and the wider church begin to recover from the challenges of the last two years and move in some ways into unmapped territory, let me repeat the challenge from Bishop Gohl, which he gave early in the time we were unable to worship in our church buildings: "What are you learning now that you need to continue into the future?"

I close with this prayer we used frequently in the last couple of years which is also my prayer as I move into an as yet unmapped future:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

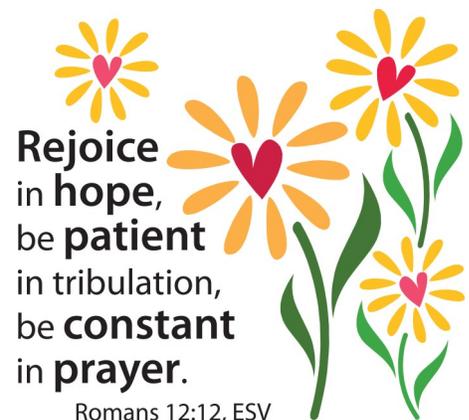
Amen.

St. Paul's Email Prayer ministry . . .

If you would like to add a name to the email prayer list or receive prayers from our prayer ministry group, please email Betty Jean Mumford at

bettyjmumford@hotmail.com

Please make sure you have the permission of the person you are adding, some people do not want to add their name to a public list.



There are dates available on the Flower Chart!

If you wish to honor someone, remember someone, or just make someone smile with flowers, the sign up sheet is on the bulletin board by the office!



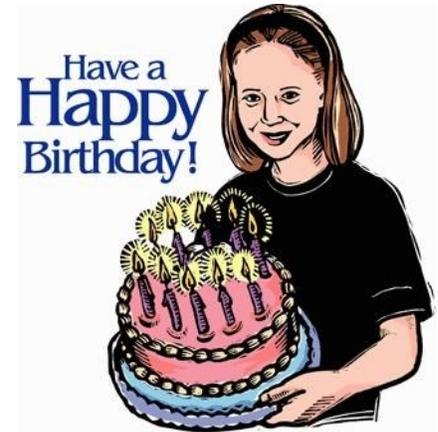
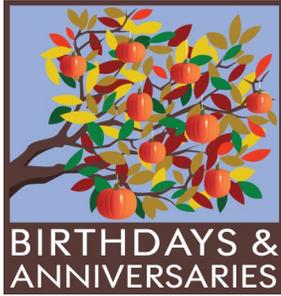
TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER—

The Board of Directors of the Talbot Interfaith Shelter have decided to refrain from having volunteers come inside the shelter as a cautionary measure with the increasing COVID uncertainty.

Dinners will continue to be provided by volunteers each month in the same manner used since the beginning of the pandemic. Please consider volunteering to provide meals for this ministry. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the offices.



OCTOBER



10/1 Meredith Lewis

10/27 Morgan Sauca

10/2 Donnie Davis

10/28 George Schnoor

10/4 Nicole Barth

10/4 Bill Cep

10/1 Richard and Debbie Dudrow

10/4 Angela Webster

10/1 Joshua and Brooke Walls

10/5 Hunter Priest

10/1 Justin and Erica Hiner

10/5 Lauren Prete

10/9 Jeffrey and Meredith Lewis

10/5 Kurt Skipper

10/14 Rocco and Kathy Barletta

10/6 Lisa Fisher

10/14 Brian and Tricia Walston

10/8 Christopher Walston

10/20 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth

10/9 Barbara Saathoff

10/25 Daniel and Sherri Brown

10/11 Brian Davis

10/12 Elizabeth Walston

10/14 Michael Prete

10/18 Mallory Short

10/19 Lorraine Prete

10/20 Tony Gay

10/24 Debbie Dudrow

10/24 Rhett Sump

10/27 Else Ross

10/27 Erika Holecheck





THIS MONTH USHERS

Ushers

October 3 Keith Davis and Donnie Davis
 October 10 Diana Hurd and Ralph Smith
 October 17 Lee Moore and Lee Heinsohn
 October 24 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
 October 31 Kathy Barletta and Susan Behrens

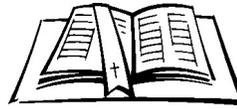
Lectors

October 3 Bobbie Leaverton
 October 10 Betty Jean Mumford
 October 17 Donna Stevens
 October 24 Robert Saathoff, Sr.
 October 31 Ellen Mulder



Tellers

October 3 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
 October 10 Diana Hurd and Ralph Smith
 October 17 Lee Moore and Lee Heinsohn
 October 24 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
 October 31 Diana Hurd and Ralph Smith



Acolytes

Altar Flowers

October 3 Debbie Dudrow
 October 10
 October 17
 October 24
 October 31 Betty Jean Mumford



Altar Flowers

October 3 Corey Fisher
 October 10 Joshua Lewis
 October 17 Avery Rice
 October 24 Joshua Lewis
 October 31 Couper Barletta



October
 Diana Hurd



October 3 Morgan Sauca
 October 17 Addison Rice
 October 31 Preston Rickwood



October


 CHURCH COUNCIL

Deacon	Mike Hiner	443 496-1383	mhiner24@gmail.com
President	Kathy Barletta	410 829-8860	barlettarkc@gmail.com
Vice President/Property	Tom Roesel	703 785-8922	thomasroesel@gmail.com
Treasurer	Debbie Dudrow	410-924-8368	rdudrow@verizon.net
Secretary	Diana Oburgh	443 262-8868	doburgh@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Donna Stevens	410 820-7243	dstevens62@icloud.com
Worship, Music, Education	Carol Meers	410 507-6833	fcmeers@comcast.net
Evangelism, Outreach	Donna Saathoff	410 310-1331	donnasaathoff529@gmail.com



October 6
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31



October 13
Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

October 20
Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

October 27
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

We always thank
God for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.

Members of St. Paul's: Jane Asche, Margaret Asche, Gordon Behrens, Lisa Fisher, Ursula Kadolph, Conroy Marth, Pastor Donald McClean, Edith Roe, Else Ross, Ralph Smith, Richard Sump, Delores Mullikin, and Louise White.

Friends of St. Paul's: Erin Bartz, Lisa Callahan, Bonnie Chambers, Glynn Chambers, Hunter Clough, Michael Eaton (brother of Rosemary Spies), Lyn Fuller, Dorothy Hiner, Katelyn Howard, Darren Leonard, Mary Ellen Leaverton, Jim and Diane Lewis, (mother and father of Jamie and Jeff Lewis and mother and father in-law of Michelle and Meredith Lewis), Michael Mumford (son of Dale & Betty Jean Mumford), John Rickwood, and Cade Wineke. We pray for those serving in the military: Tessa Heller, Hunter Priest and Victoria Jacobs.



On September 12, during our service at the Talbot Ag Center, we celebrated Sunday School Kick-Off and God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. This is a time to celebrate who we are as a church and how we can serve and love our neighbors. Deacon Mike Hiner presented the idea of our middle school and high school students making raised flower beds to raise vegetables, herbs, and flowers as an outreach to our community.

These offerings would be placed in a rack by our Blessing Box, given to other community outreaches, and any families that would benefit from fresh produce. Everyone (young and old) can participate! Participation can be brainstorming crops to grow, finding outreaches or people in our community to receive, assisting in the care of the raised beds, or even praying for this new ministry.

If you have any questions or thoughts on this ministry, please feel free to reach out to Mike Hiner .



OCTOBER 2, 2021

“Oktoberfest”

on Saturday, October 2
at the Talbot Ag Center!

4-7 PM

4-5 PM MOONBOUNCE, BINGO & REFRESHMENTS

5 PM BRATWURST, BURGERS & HOT DOGS

5 PM– 7 PM LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING WITH THE Alte Kumpel

German Band !

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW.

Grace strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It strikes us when we walk through the dark valley of a meaningless and empty life. It strikes us when our disgust for our own being, our indifference, our weakness, our hostility, and our lack of direction and composure have become intolerable to us. It strikes us when, year after year, the longed-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign within us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage.

Sometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: “You are accepted.”

—Paul Tillich



Building God's kingdom

On Reformation Sunday, as we think about Martin Luther, the 16th-century reformer of the church, we rejoice that God raises men and women in every era to lead movements which serve the kingdom of God. According to Luther, "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."

It was faith that helped Luther become such a daring and courageous leader. Columnist Walter Lippmann once wrote: "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him, in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on."

Of course, that applies to both men and women — and it certainly applied to Luther.

God calls men and women out of the world to learn the meaning of commitment, love and service. God then sends those men and women back into the world to put their commitment, love and service to work. That's how the kingdom of God is spread and how God's church remains alive and healthy.

Reformation Sunday is on October 31, 2021.

A GriefShare support group meets every Wednesday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. GriefShare is a 13-week Christ centered biblically based support group seminar. Each session lasts 1 ½ -2 hours and consists of a video presentation followed by small group discussion about topics presented in the video.

Each attendee received a workbook that provides note-taking tools and a daily Bible study for personal study, journaling, and application of concepts presented on the videos.

Prayer support is important for this ministry. Pray that the Lord will bring people to the GriefShare group, that members will find help and hope, and members will grow closer to the Lord. Pray for protection and guidance for the leadership team.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

If you are interested in attending, would like more information, or are interested in being a facilitator, contact Mike Hiner, Betty Jean Mumford, Barry Reusing, or Meredith Lewis.



Update on the Call Process for a New Pastor

Searching for a New Pastor



Pastor Robin Litton, assistant to the Bishop will be leading the Interview Team and the Covenant Team through the process of calling a new pastor. Both teams have met with Pastor Robin to begin each of their tasks. The Covenant Team members are Robert Saathoff, Sam Sauca, and Donna Stevens. This team along with three members from Grace Lutheran will be writing the contract for the new pastor. The Interview Team members are Nicole Barth, Bobbie Leaverton, and Betty Jean Mumford. This team along with three members from Grace Lutheran are tasked with interviewing the new pastor which will take place in late September. Once the Interview Team completes their interview, the council from both churches will conduct an interview and then each congregation will invite the candidate to preside at a worship service. A final vote will not be taken until after all steps have been completed. If at any time during this process you have questions or comments, please see one of the members mentioned above or a member of council



As Covid numbers begin to rise, the council will continue to monitor our next steps. Please be flexible with us during this process as procedures may change quickly. If you are feeling ill, please take care of yourself and enjoy the service on Facebook Live or Youtube.

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Return Service Requested

Worship Service Begins at 9am
Sunday School Begins After Church
Please inform the church office of any
changes in your personal information:
Address, phone number, marriage or
divorce, or new births so that we
can keep our records up-to-date.

Secretary: Meredith Lewis—

Cell: 443-496-0903

Deacon Michael Hiner

Minister of Word and Service

Phone: 443-496-1383

Email: mhiner24@gmail.com

Choir Director and Organist: Julie Hawley

Phone: 412-600-6326

Email: julie.hawley1487@gmail.com